CLAIMS

 A method for session-return to enable a stateful web application, comprising:

receiving a termination uniform resource locator (URL) from a client relating to a terminated web application session, the termination URL including an external session identifier (ESID) identifying the terminated web application session;

storing a state related to the terminated web application session associated with the ESID;

receiving a request from the client for a new web application session;

determining whether the request includes an identifier that corresponds to the ESID of the terminated web application session; and

if the identifier corresponds to the ESID of the terminated web application session, serving the new web application session according to the state related to the terminated web application session.

- 2. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein storing the state related to the terminated web application further includes storing the ESID identifying the terminated web application.
- 3. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising receiving the ESID from a portal used by the client.

- 4. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising receiving an ESID in response to serving the new web application.
- 5. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising receiving an ESID each time a new web application session is started.
- 6. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the request includes a start URL.
- 7. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising, if the identifier does not correspond to the ESID of the terminated web application session, serving the new web application session in a startup mode.
- 8. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising minimizing the state related to the terminated web application.
- 9. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising storing the ESID in a table.
- 10. A method in accordance with claim 9, wherein determining whether the request includes an identifier that corresponds to the ESID of the terminated web application session further includes mapping the identifier to one or more ESIDs stored in the table.
- 11. A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein the ESID is generated by a session manager of the portal.

12. A method for session-return to enable a stateful web application, comprising:

receiving a request from a client for a new web application session;

determining whether the request includes an identifier that corresponds to an external session identifier (ESID) stored in a memory and identifying a terminated web application session;

if the identifier corresponds to the ESID of the terminated web application session, serving the new web application session according to a state related to the terminated web application session; and

if the identifier does not correspond to the ESID of the terminated web application session, serving the new web application session in a startup mode.

- 13. A method in accordance with claim 12, further comprising storing the state related to the terminated web application session.
- 14. A method in accordance with claim 12, further comprising receiving the ESID from the client with a termination uniform resource locator (URL).
- 15. A method in accordance with claim 13, wherein the state is a session-return state related to the terminated web application session.
- 16. A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein determining whether the request includes an identifier that corresponds to the ESID of the terminated web application

session further includes mapping the identifier to one or more ESIDs stored in the table.

- 17. A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein the request includes a start URL.
- 18. A system for performing page-back of a web application, comprising:

a portal configured to generate a external session identifier (ESID) related to a web application session, and further configured to send the ESID to a server; and

a server platform hosting the server and having a memory configured to store a state associated with the ESID and a mapping module configured to map a request for a new web application session to one or more ESIDs in the memory, the server platform being further configured to serve the new web application session in the state associated with one ESID if the request corresponds to the one ESID.

- 19. A system in accordance with claim 18, wherein the server is a web application server.
- 20. A system in accordance with claim 18, wherein the portal further comprises a session manager that generates the ESID.